representatives of the three countries was constituted. The first Meeting of the TCWC was held on 24-25 February 2005 in Yangon. The TCWC prepared a draft Moll, proposed to be signed by the three oil Ministers after approval of their respective Governments. However, as Bangladesh insisted on referring to certain bilateral issues in the draft trilateral MoU, the final-ization of the MoU has been delayed. While we are exploring other options of importing natural gas from Myanmar outstanding issues relating to the draft MoU continue to be under consideration of both Governments.

With regard to the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TAP) Pipeline project, India has been invited to attend the next meeting of the Streering Committee of the TAP project in Ashgabat. India will be attending the meeting as an observer.

Exploration of oil and gas in Gujarat

191. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for exploration of gas and oil in the Gujarat Region keeping in veiw the availability of oil and gas reserves there;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) started hydrocarbons exploration in the State of Gujarat in 1956 and continue its efforts. As on 1.4.2005, ONGC have acquired a total of 104191 Ground Line Kilometers (GLK) of 2-D seismic data, 4220 square kilometers of 3-D seismic data, and drilled 2252 exploratory and 3109 development wells in the State of Gujarat. As a result of these exploratory efforts, ONGC have made 92 hydrocarbon finds and established 1313.88 Million Metric Tonne (oil+equivalent of gas) initial in-place volume of hydrocarbons (as on 1.4.2005) in the State Gujarat.

To supplement exploration efforts, the Government of the India have already awarded six exploration blocks to National Oil Companies (NOCs) and foreign and private/joint venture companies in the first four rounds of

the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). In the fifth round of NELP, two exploration blocks were offered falling inthe districts of Ahmedabad, Kheda and Bharuch, which are likely to be awarded by the 31st July 2005. ONGC has a plan outlay of Rs. 713.56 crores for exploration in the State of Gujarat. The Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) have estimated expenditure of Rs. 55.5 crores fore seismic surveys and magneto telluric surveys in the State of Gujarat.

Export of petroleum products

192. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products earned over Rs. 25,000 Crores during the year 2004-2005;

(b) if so, what was the percentage share of Public Sector Undertakings and Private Oil Companies in these export earnings;

(c) whether Government are developing India as a petro; export hub to promote export of finished oil products;

(d) if so, what is the anticipated export earnings from petroleum products during 2005-06; and

(e) what were the actual export earnings during 1st April, 2005 to 30 June, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The earnings from export of petroleum products during 2004-05 amounted to Rs. 28,372 crore, of which the share of the public sector was 37.9% and that of the private sector 62.1 %.

(c) and (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited have been asked to prepare a detailed feasibility study on making India an investment destination for refineries, particularly export oriented refineries, aimed at promoting India as the refining hub of South Asia/South EastAsia. The results of the study would indicate the possible benefits. Based on existing capacities, the estimated export earnings from petroleum products during 2005-06 is Rs. 20,374 crore.

(e) Actual export earnings during 1st April 2005-30th June, 2005 was Rs. 8,010 crores (Provisional).